



FOFA Gallery

**Jess Slipp**

*with & of  
(Becoming Rock)*

March 9th – April 6th 2023

Vernissage  
March 9th, 5-7 pm

Monday to Friday  
11 am to 6 pm

Tiohtià:ke / Montreal  
1515 St-Catherine West,  
H3G 2W1, EV 1-715  
514 848-2424 #7962

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From March 9th to April 6th, 2023, the FOFA Gallery hosts the work of **Jess Slipp**.

Rocks are a form and means to compact earth and time. I am interested in what rocks contain and how, when deconstructed, they return to tiny particles of matter – the fundamental component to the fabric of the universe and where all of life began. *with & of (Becoming Rock)* is an extensive series of performative videos which explore the relationship between body and earth.

The videos document forty distinct attempts to embody or merge with the land through the action of becoming rock, visually, in the landscape. The accompanying paper sculptures — used as performance objects in the videos — carry the folds, tears, and traces of their lifetime, akin to a rock, the land, or even flesh. The act of repetition echoing throughout this body of work has become a ritual or meditation within my creative practice; a way to learn about and understand the earth via my body, over and over again. To actually merge with the land is, of course, a physical impossibility. However, I see each repeated attempt as an absurd yet genuine, awkward yet honest, gesture toward the reimagining of *matter* and *what matters* in this time of ecological crisis and global climate change.

**Jess Slipp** is an artist and educator currently living and working in Tiohtià:ke/Mooniyang (Montréal). Her artistic practice draws upon photography, video, sculpture, performance, and print-based media to investigate notions of place, uncover new perspectives of land & landscape, and look more deeply into the intricacies of existence. Jess holds a BFA in Photography (2012) and MFA in Print Media (2019) from Concordia University. As part of various exhibitions, her works have been shown both locally and nationally. She has also received numerous awards including an Explore & Create grant from the Canada Council for the Arts in 2021 and has participated in residencies across the US and Canada. Her upcoming events in 2023 include a residency and public workshop at RURART (QC), and a Research-Creation residency at Centre SAGAMIE (QC).

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